

**Archival Records
City of Savannah, Georgia
Clerk of Council**

Records held in the City Hall Records Center, Administered by the Municipal Research Library

COLLECTION NAME: City Council Meeting Papers
COLLECTION DATES: 1817-1957
RECORD SERIES: 0115-001, 0115-002, 0115-003, 0115-004
RECORD SERIES BOX #s: 0115-001-A1 through 0115-001-A396,
0115-001-B1 through 0115-001-B58
0115-002-17 through 0115-002-22.18
0115-003-1 through 0115-003-4.15
0115-004-1 through 0115-004-1.2

GROUP NAME: Miscellaneous
GROUP DATES: 1849-1930
GROUP ABBREVIATION: MSC
GROUP BOX #s: MSC 1 through MSC 3
GROUP SIZE: 3 Document Cases (legal)
36 Folders (legal)
RECORD SERIES BOX #s: 0115-004-1 through 0115-004-1.2

RECORD GROUP SCOPE NOTE: Miscellaneous Numbers 91 - 737¹ and unnumbered

This record group includes miscellaneous papers such as petitions, bids, license requests, complaints about taxes and tenants, regulations at City Market, lawsuits, and wharf and dock problems. A variety of committees are represented, both regular committees and special committees, including: Committee of Free Holders; Sanitary Commission; Committee on Streets and Lanes; Committee on Water; Market Committee; and Health and Cemetery Committee.

Complete information as to the parties represented in the miscellaneous documents can be found in the Index Books maintained in the office of the Clerk of Council. [Volumes: *Deed Book 1*, and *Index: Bids, Contracts & Miscellaneous Papers*, #2 - #6] The first Index Book does not include the date, so the Inventory accompanying this Finding Aid will be useful.

Items in the Index Books are arranged alphabetically only by the first letter of the term indexed.

¹There are no #s 1 - 90 and there are many gaps in the numbers indicating missing documents.

Archival Records City of Savannah, Georgia Clerk of Council

Records held in the City Hall Records Center, Administered by the Municipal Research Library

RECORD GROUP SCOPE NOTE: (continued)

Items are sometimes entered under a generic heading such as Sheriff's Office or City Attorney. The numbers follow chronologically within the letter of the alphabet. The Index Books are quite good and are often cross-referenced in a variety of ways.

Since 1987 the Clerk of Council's Office has converted to a computerized system of recording documents and hard copy Index Books are no longer prepared.

Because this record group is miscellaneous, a variety of types of documents are included by the Clerk of Council in this category. It is advisable to check this group if researching a deed or contract, as well. If a piece of paper was handled by the Clerk of Council, it appears to have been numbered and filed.

A number of envelopes were discovered tied together with string. They all appear to have been gathered by a former City Attorney, Samuel B. Adams, who left office c.1912. These include deeds to property in one ward of the city over a period of years. All of this material is unnumbered and has been kept together in the first box (MSC 1). Other unnumbered documents found in the envelopes and deemed to be part of this miscellaneous record group are also located in this box. Again, an itemized list can be found in the Inventory accompanying the Finding Aid.

When unnumbered miscellaneous documents were found which were associated with a City Council committee, they were interfiled with the other papers of that record group of City Council Meeting Papers. If unable to find a contract or deed, or even a committee or finance report on a specific topic, the researcher should try looking in the Clerk of Council Index Books under "Miscellaneous Papers".

Dates in parenthesis on the folders indicate dates outside the date range of the majority of the items in the folder. For example, [(1852) 1873 - 1897 (1930)] means that the date range is 1852-1930. The bulk of the documents, however, fall between 1873 and 1897. Except for a very few supporting documents, including some relevant to a tax case concerning Hutchinson Island (folder # 20), no miscellaneous documents were found between 1861 and 1864.

Archival Records City of Savannah, Georgia Clerk of Council

Records held in the City Hall Records Center, Administered by the Municipal Research Library

RECORD GROUP SCOPE NOTE: (continued)

The date that the Clerk of Council entered a specific miscellaneous document into the Index Book may not be the same date used in this Inventory.

RECORD GROUP CONDITION NOTE:

Initially, these documents were stored in standard letter-legal records storage cartons in the City Hall basement. Between ten and twenty-five pieces of paper were "jammed into" 9" by 4" heavy brown acidic envelopes tied with string. Most are held together with multiple metal butterfly clips, as well as other fasteners made of, metal, string or other materials. Removing these items sometimes causes the fragile paper to tear. When it was feasible, these older fasteners have been replaced with plastic clips or rust-proof staples.

Archival processing included removing the documents from the envelopes, extracting metal hardware or other adhesives when practical and/or possible, unfolding or unrolling the documents, and placing them into acid-free folders and document cases.

The earliest documents are handwritten and often the ink has run considerably. Some documents are in very poor shape because of the type of paper, number of folds, or extraneous material being used to hold them together, i.e. metal rivets, glue, tape, and/or rubber bands.

The focus of this project was to gain initial intellectual control over the documents and to house them in archival stable containers. No preservation work was done with the exception of removing obvious hardware and repairing only the worst damage where loss of information was imminent.

RECORD GROUP DESCRIPTION:

Although these miscellaneous files often deal with quite mundane items, such as a request to lower a merchant's tax, or a suit for trespassing, the documents provide a slice of Savannah life for the 1870s, 1880s, and 1890s. Horses were important to the economy; so, an accusation that the Marshall House horse had glanders (1874) a deadly, communicable disease, was taken seriously by the Mayor and Aldermen. A smallpox case in the jail in 1876 meant that the chain

Archival Records City of Savannah, Georgia Clerk of Council

Records held in the City Hall Records Center, Administered by the Municipal Research Library

RECORD GROUP DESCRIPTION: (continued)

gang had to "camp out." A ship being stranded at low tide meant that all of the other ships were stuck in port until a high enough tide moved the grounded bark in February, 1875. Wharfs were in disrepair, and tree limbs had to be trimmed because they were scratching the horses. Rags were being shipped north instead of being turned into paper by the Atlantic Paper Co., an offense subject to a tax or special license in 1875. Obviously, market conditions and their impact on current situations in city government are nothing new. Examples of tenant problems, high taxes, economic slowdowns, street flooding and neighborhood disturbances are found in the miscellaneous files.

Information was recorded about these miscellaneous documents in the Index Books in the Clerk of Council's Office. The original Index Book (Book I), in the Clerk of Council's Office does not include dates; so, the Inventory accompanying this Finding Aid will be useful in conjunction with the Clerk of Council Index Books if one is trying to identify a particular party or project. The later Volumes #2-#6 of the Clerk of Council's Index Books do include dates. The dates in the Inventory and those recorded in the Clerk of Council's Index Books, may not exactly coincide.

The archivist's processing notes and worksheets are available on request.

Archival Records

City of Savannah, Georgia

Clerk of Council

Records held in the City Hall Records Center, Administered by the Municipal Research Library

City Council Meeting Papers (0115-003), 1849-1930

MISCELLANEOUS (MSC), (1849-1860, 1864) 1866-1897 (1900, 1901, 1904, 1912, 1930)

INVENTORY:

BOX # MSC 1 [0115-004-1]

YEARS: (1852- 1890 abstract only) 1868-1901 (1904, 1912, 1930)

The material found tied together under the City Attorney's office is described below. The random unnumbered items have also been included in this box. The date is usually from the County Record Book stamp. Other stamps indicated the date they were entered into the Mortgages Book or Deeds Book.

FOLDER # 1

Date	Doc. type	Description	Ward	County Record Book	folio #
1852 - 1890	Abstract	Title search of lots in Brownsville subdivision	Percival Ward Holland Tything		
1868 Jan 9	deed	Dr. Louis Falligant and Cromwell [lot 105 Brownville]	Percival Ward Holland Tything		
1868 Sep 26	deed	Dr. Louis Falligant to H. Wallace [lot 110 Brownville]	Percival Ward Holland Tything	4J	368.36g and 370
1870 Dec 17	deed	Louis Falligant to Ellen Falligant [Brownville]	Percival Ward Holland Tything	4I	125,126
1871 Nov 7	deed	Cann to Ward [lot no. 113 Brownsville]	Percival Ward Holland Tything	LLLL	417, 418
1887 Nov 11	deed	Toby and D.R. Adams to Carr & Golden [Brown[s]ville]	Percival Ward Holland Tything	6H	11
1888 Oct 17	deed	Charles Ward lot 113 Brownsville	Percival Ward Holland Tything	Mort. X	286
1891 Oct 1	deed	Cooke to Weigand [Brownville]	Percival Ward Holland Tything	Deeds7 A	219-220

**Archival Records
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Clerk of Council**

Records held in the City Hall Records Center, Administered by the Municipal Research Library

City Council Meeting Papers (0115-003), 1849-1930

MISCELLANEOUS (MSC), (1849-1860, 1864) 1866-1897 (1900, 1901, 1904, 1912, 1930)

INVENTORY:

BOX # MSC 1 (continued) [0115-004-1]

YEARS: (1852) 1868-1901 (1904, 1912, 1930)

FOLDER #1 (continued)

Date	Doc. type	Description	Ward	County Record Book	folio #
1891 Sep 30	deed	Weigand & Newman to Williams [Brownsville]	Percival Ward Holland Tything	7A	220
1892 Aug 2	deed	Willis to Stephens lot no. 115 [Brownsville]	Percival Ward Holland Tything	7H	31-2
1892 May 21	deed	Ward to G. B. Whatley lot 113 [Brownsville]	Percival Ward Holland Tything	Mort. 2S	202
1894 Sep 5	deed	Carr to Southern Home Building and Loan association [Brown[s]ville]	Percival Ward Holland Tything	Mort. 3G	184
1894 Feb 19	deed	Carr to Paige [Brownville]	Percival Ward Holland Tything	Mort. 3C	360 -361

Archival Records

City of Savannah, Georgia

Clerk of Council

Records held in the City Hall Records Center, Administered by the Municipal Research Library

City Council Meeting Papers (0115-003), 1849-1930

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INVENTORY:

BOX # MSC 1 (continued) [0115-004-1]

YEARS: (1852) 1868-1901 (1904, 1912, 1930)

FOLDER # 2

Date	Doc. type	Description	Ward	County Record Book	folio #
1895 Oct 7	deed	Bloke and ? William [Brownville]	Percival Ward Holland Tything	Mort. 3M	282
1896 Jan 8	deed	Carr to Arnold [Brown[s]ville]	Percival Ward Holland Tything	Mort 3	206
1897 May 26	deed	Brown & Brooks to Campbull [lot 114 Brownsville]	Percival Ward Holland Tything	7T	138
1898 Feb 14	deed	Blake to Godbold [lot no. 31 C.J. Hull's subdivision]	Percival Ward Holland Tything	7V	395
1898 Sep 14	deed	Sheftall (Sheriff) -Carr property to Arnold [Brownville]	Percival Ward Holland Tything	deeds 7Y	73
1898 May 11	deed	Falligant to Davis lot 21 or 22	Percival Ward Holland Tything	7W	339
1898 May 11	deed	Davis to Bungler	Percival Ward Holland Tything	7XX	341
1898 Aug 4	deed	Arnold to Carr [Brown[s]ville]	Percival Ward Holland Tything	7X	345
1899 Jun 17	deed	Powell to Wilson [lot no. 110 Brownsville]	Percival Ward Holland Tything	8A	365
1899 Jun 22	deed	Arnold to Woodward [Brown[s]ville]	Percival Ward Holland Tything	8A	376

Archival Records

City of Savannah, Georgia

Clerk of Council

Records held in the City Hall Records Center, Administered by the Municipal Research Library

City Council Meeting Papers (0115-003), 1849-1930

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INVENTORY:

BOX # MSC 1 (continued) [0115-004-1]

YEARS: (1852) 1868-1901 (1904, 1912, 1930)

FOLDER # 3

Date	Doc. type	Description	Ward	County Record Book	folio #
1892 Aug 18	deed	Peter Bowen to Gabriel Bowen [Lot G]	Darby Ward	7D	355-6
1900 Jul 24	deed	Ott to Jacks [Second, Third and Lincoln Sts.]		8F	15
1904 Jun 20	deed	Florence Crittenton Mission to Mayor and Aldermen [lot no. 88]	Battery Ward	Mort. 5F	247

End of documents that appeared to be gathered together by the City Attorney.

Folders 4- 7, unnumbered miscellaneous

Folder #	Description	Year/Month
4	Map: Hebrew Congregation lot near Cohen St., Choctow Ward,	1899 Jun 19
5	Fire Insurance policy for the city stables	1901 Oct 1
6	Bids for automobile for the Health department	1912 Mar
7	Report: Seaboard Air Line Railway proposed relocation to Norfolk. Includes Plats., a history of the city's relationship to the railway and the impact its leaving would have on the city.	1930 Jan

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City of Savannah, Georgia

Clerk of Council

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City Council Meeting Papers (0115-003), 1849-1930

MISCELLANEOUS (MSC), (1849-1860, 1864) 1866-1897 (1900, 1901, 1904, 1912, 1930)

INVENTORY:

BOX # MSC 2 [0115-004-1.1]

YEARS: (1859, 1864) 1866 - 1889

Folder #	Document #	Year/Month
8	91 - 94 (missing #s 1-90,. 95-286)	1884 Feb-1884 Dec
9	287 - 303 (missing #s 294, 295)	1885 Jul-1888 Dec
10	304	1878 Mar
11	305	1885 Oct-1888 Jan
12	306	1879 Jan
13	307 - 312	1881 Dec-1885 Dec
14	313 - 320	1875 Mar-1889 Mar
15	321 - 329	1878 May-1881 Jan
16	330 - 347	1879 Oct-1888 Aug
17	348 - 357	(1874 Feb) 1883-1887 Sep
18	358 - 370	1874 Jul-1876 Feb
19	371 - 380	1871 Nov-1876 Apr
20	381	(1859 Dec) 1864,1866 Jun
21	382 - 401(missing # 386)	1869 May-1880 Oct
22	402 - 412	1866 Apr-1876 Oct

Archival Records

City of Savannah, Georgia

Clerk of Council

Records held in the City Hall Records Center, Administered by the Municipal Research Library

City Council Meeting Papers (0115-003), 1849-1930

MISCELLANEOUS (MSC), (1849-1860, 1864) 1866-1897 (1900, 1901, 1904, 1912, 1930)

INVENTORY:

BOX # MSC 3 [0115-004-1.2]

YEARS: (1849-1860, 1864, 1870-1871), 1884-1897 (1902)

Folder #	Document #	Year/Month
23	413	1884 Oct-1886 Sep
24	414	(1851) 1853 Feb-1858 Feb
25	415	1849-1860, 1864
26	416	1886 Sep
27	417 - 421 (missing #s 422 - 596)	(1860 Oct) 1870 Aug-1871 Sep
28	597	1889 Oct
29	598	1889 Aug
30	599 - 624 (missing # 617)	1889 May-1890 Nov
31	625	1889 Sep-1890 Jan
32	626 - 650	1887 Feb-1892 Dec
33	651 - 660	1893 Jan-Jul
34	661 - 683	1890 Dec-1895 Jun
35	684 - 707	1895 Mar-1897 Jan
36	708 - 737	(1887) 1895 Nov-1897 Apr (1902)

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City of Savannah, Georgia
Clerk of Council**

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City Council Meeting Papers (0115-004), 1849-1930
MISCELLANEOUS (MSC), 1849-1930

ADDENDUM TO INVENTORY: BOX NOTES

BOX # MSC 1 [0115-004-1]

Miscellaneous unnumbered
7 folders, approximately 30 miscellaneous items
Years: (1852-1890 abstract only) 1868- 1901 (1904, 1912, 1930)

This box includes a number of individual items which were found without numbers among the miscellaneous items. One item might have many documents associated with it, such as in the case of a legal question, witness' statements, correspondence, and the attorney's opinion about the case.

Numerous envelopes were discovered tied together with string. This group of material appears to have been gathered by a former City Attorney, Samuel B. Adams, who left office c.1912. These include a number of deeds to property in Percival Ward including title searches from 1852 - 1899. There are also three deeds for property in other wards. The spelling used on the accompanying Inventory is the spelling found on the documents. Hence, Brownville or Brownsville can both be found. A question mark is used to indicate illegible information on the document.

Other unnumbered documents found among the miscellaneous envelopes and deemed to be part of this miscellaneous record group are also located in this box. There is a map indicating property belonging to the Hebrew Congregation in Choctow Ward in 1899, and an interesting detailed report about the City's relationship with the Seaboard Air Line Railway. The report documents the City's attempts to convince the railway to keep the company's headquarters in Savannah in 1930.

An itemized list can be found in the Inventory for this box accompanying these Box Notes.

Archival Records City of Savannah, Georgia Clerk of Council

Records held in the City Hall Records Center, Administered by the Municipal Research Library

City Council Meeting Papers (0115-004), 1849-1930
MISCELLANEOUS (MSC), 1849-1930

ADDENDUM TO INVENTORY: BOX NOTES

BOX # MSC 2 [0115-004-1.1]

Miscellaneous # 91-94, 287-412 (Missing: #s 1-90, 95-286, 294, 295, 404, 407, 409)
15 folders, 125 miscellaneous items
Years: (1859, 1864) 1866-1889

The majority of these documents date from the 1880s, followed by the second most in quantity being from the 1870s. The earlier dates document topics which covered a longer period of time such as a lawsuit, court case or land dispute; i.e., #381 concerning Hutchinson Island, and # 412 involving a case alleging a police officer was absent from duty including testimony and appeals over a number of years.

There are two large gaps found in the numbering sequence. There are no documents numbered 1 - 90 and 95-286 . Other gaps are indicated on the accompanying Inventory.

Many of the reports, petitions and other documents evidently came from various committees which dealt with matters pertaining to them; such as, a special committee on the Savannah Ogeechee Canal; Committee of Free Holders; Sanitary Commission, Board of Health; Committee on Streets and Lanes; Committee on Drainage; Dry Culture Committee; Committee on Fire; Committee on Water; Market Committee; Health and Cemetery Committee; and Committee on Docks and Wharfs.

Because of the random nature of the topics discussed, the documents included in this record group peak one's curiosity and have a "human interest" element to them. Interesting documents include: #302, giving the Oglethorpe Club permission to sell liquors; #304 containing evidence and testimony in a case brought by Dr. W.S. Lawton alleging damage to his rice plantation and his business; #305 containing a number of documents relating to the Quarantine Station; #332 containing a large plat of the owners of lots on Hutchinson Island c.1880; #350 and others asking for tax reductions because "business is at a standstill due to the financial crisis" in 1884;

Archival Records City of Savannah, Georgia Clerk of Council

Records held in the City Hall Records Center, Administered by the Municipal Research Library

City Council Meeting Papers (0115-004), 1849-1930
MISCELLANEOUS (MSC), 1849-1930

ADDENDUM TO INVENTORY: BOX NOTES

BOX # MSC 2 (continued)

#356 concerning the Female Orphan Asylum; #363 concerning closing an establishment in City Market because of the rowdiness of its crowds; #370 asking that horses be examined for the disease of glanders; #372 concerning a man being accused of possessing a "wheel of fortune" machine; #378 addressing the problem of "quack" remedies and physicians at the City Dispensary; #379 asking for improvements to pilotage on the river which includes signatures of prominent Savannahians; #385 in 1873 asking for money for the Georgia Infirmary in order to care for "indigent colored persons" (founded in 1870 this institution was later called the Oglethorpe Hospital Association); #388 containing complaints from merchants about transient tradesmen taking business away from Savannah merchants; #389 in which Wade Collins is accused of giving a public ball without permission; #391 in which a railroad tries to recover costs of extending the tracks to the Cotton Exchange during "the horse disease"; and, #397 in which the German Fire Co. requests a lot in Franklin Ward.

Archival Records City of Savannah, Georgia Clerk of Council

Records held in the City Hall Records Center, Administered by the Municipal Research Library

City Council Meeting Papers (0115-004), 1849-1930
MISCELLANEOUS (MSC), 1849-1930

ADDENDUM TO INVENTORY: BOX NOTES

BOX # MSC 3 [0115-004-1.2]

Miscellaneous #413 - 737 (Missing: #s 422-597, 617, 637, 638, 659, 664, 696)
14 folders, 157 Miscellaneous
Years: (1849-1860, 1864, 1870-1871) 1884-1896 (1902)

Like the previous box, Box 3 documents the business of various issues that came before the City's committees and commissions. Many of the documents in this record group also appear to be opinions of the City Attorney on issues brought before the Mayor and Aldermen.

#413 contains numerous documents from 1849-1858 dealing with improvements to the Savannah River including an 1851 map with soundings. #415 contains a number of reports of the Dry Culture Committee from 1850 - 1864.

There is a gap in the documents from #422 - #597.

Interesting documents include: #616 allowing disabled Confederate veterans to peddle without paying a licensing fee; #618 and others dealing with claims made by merchants or home owners who lost use of their property because of a smallpox quarantine; #598 in which the foreman of the Scavenger Department is accused of neglecting his duties; #600 in which the Catholic Library Hall claims exemption from taxes; #602 containing complaints against the sanitary conditions at the City Market; #625 & #626 concerning complaints against the Quarantine Officer; #629 concerning repairs to the City Exchange beginning at the Pork Warden's Office; #630, #631 and others dealing with issues around smallpox cases; #636 concerning the establishment of the first Monday in September of each year as a legal holiday; #649 containing recommendations from local physicians about what the City should do to reduce the cases of typhoid fever, which includes the signatures of the physicians; #650 extending the city limits to the north side of Lover's Lane; #651 defining that selling less than one quart of spirits makes one a retail dealer in liquor; #660 showing that the City was in the horse trading business; #665 revoking one John Carr's liquor license because he sold on "the Lord's Day"; #669 & #672 in 1894 discussing a new quarantine station and asking about the procedure for transferring the station to the U.S. Government; #681 setting the maximum fare on the street car at 5¢;

**Archival Records
City of Savannah, Georgia
Clerk of Council**

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City Council Meeting Papers (0115-004), 1849-1930
MISCELLANEOUS (MSC), 1849-1930

ADDENDUM TO INVENTORY: BOX NOTES

BOX # MSC 3 (continued)

#693 in which citizens protest the building of a "sanitarium" on Hall and Bull Sts.; #697 in which the City Attorney says that the City cannot deny the right of an ex-priest named Slattery to speak; and, # 711 in which the City Attorney tells the City that it cannot sue the *Savannah Evening Herald* for its article entitled "Protects his Henchmen" in 1896.